# Los Augeles County Sheriff's Department Officer Involved Shooting

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Location:					٦.	Deputies conta	cted ar	n assaultive	suspec	t during	a disti	urband	ce
5035 West Slauson Avenue				call and Tased him twice. Deputy Imaizumi fatally shot the suspect when the suspect charged at him with a hair clipper.									
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(40)

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#### FORCE APPLIED (one code per block)

Used By (E# or S#)	Used Against (E# or S#)	Method (Code)	Brand (Code)	Caliber (Code)	Authorized Weapon? (Y/N)	Authorized Ammunition? (Y/N)	Type of Injury (Code)	Body Part (Code)
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## Officer Involved Shooting Involved Employee Information

URN: 017-00597-2767-013

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	Booking # None	Primary Charge: 245(c) PC		Sec	ondary Charg	je: 422 DC	
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### COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

#### INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

INCIDENT: Use of Tasers, Hit-Shooting, Suspect deceased

IAB FILE NUMBER: SH 2423038 / FO 2457334

URN: 017-00597-2767-013

**DATE/TIME:** March 7, 2017; 2305 hours

LOCATION: 5035 West Slauson Avenue.

Ladera Heights, California 90606

#### **SYNOPSIS:**

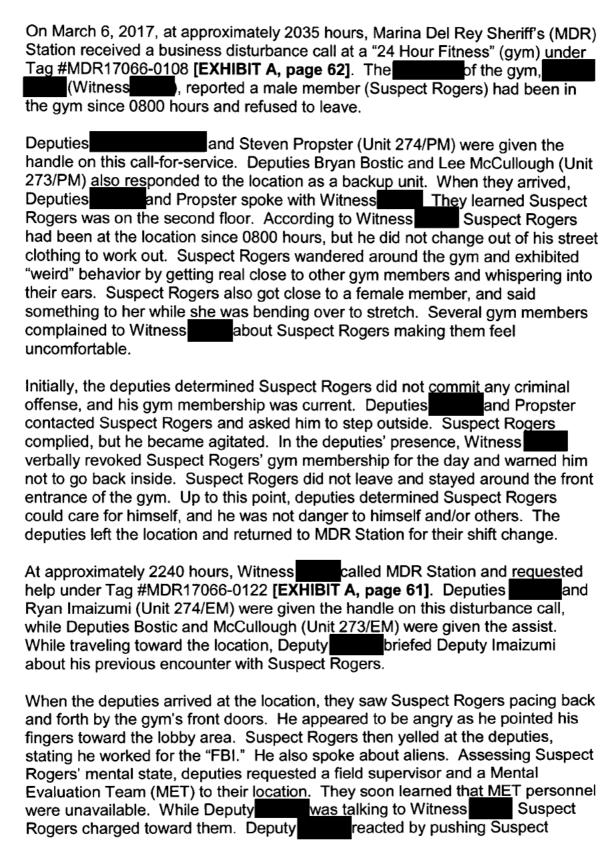
On Wednesday, March 7, 2017, Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) Sergeants Luan Dang, and Patrick Mannion responded to 5035 West Slauson Avenue, in the unincorporated county area of Ladera Heights, regarding a deputy involved hit-shooting incident. IAB investigators learned the deputies deployed and used their Tasers on Suspect Dennis Rogers (Suspect Rogers) twice before the fatal shooting occurred. During this incident, Suspect Rogers swung a metal hair clipper and charged toward Deputy Ryan Imaizumi. Deputy Imaizumi retreated and fatally shot Suspect Rogers. Suspect Rogers was taken to Ronald Reagan UCLA Hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

IAB Sergeant Mannion learned the on-duty Watch Commander, Sergeant Elvis Salas, took reasonable steps to ensure the involved and witness personnel did not discuss the incident among themselves, or with uninvolved persons, prior to being interviewed by the assigned investigators. Additionally, the involved and witness personnel did not collectively consult with their attorneys or union representatives. IAB Sergeant Mannion also learned the involved and witness personnel were gathered in the company of a supervisor until they provided their statements to the assigned investigators.

Homicide Sergeants Richard Ruiz and Marcelo Quintero arrived and assumed control of the shooting investigation - For further information refer to the shooting Investigation Book, under URN #017-00597-2767-013 **[EXHIBIT A]**.

On February 21, 2018, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office reviewed the facts of this case and determined Deputy Imaizumi was in fear for his life when he fired his weapon at Suspect Rogers [EXHIBIT B].

#### SUMMARY



Rogers away with his hand. Seconds later, Suspect Rogers charged toward Deputy in an aggressive manner. His action forced Deputy to move away. In fear for his safety, Deputy yelled, "Taser." This was his verbal signal for Deputy Imaizumi to activate his Taser. Deputy Imaizumi fired his Taser, aiming at Suspect Rogers' torso. The Taser darts hit Suspect Rogers in the chest area. The Taser's activation was ineffective, as Suspect Rogers ripped the darts off his body and threw them on the ground.

**IAB Note:** An anonymous person (NFD) used his/her cellular phone to record Deputy Imaizumi's use of the Taser. The video was later released to a news station. Homicide investigators applied for a warrant and obtained the video from NBC - Channel 4 **[EXHIBIT C]**.

After Suspect Rogers threw the darts on the ground, he walked east along the north wall of the gym. Deputies followed Suspect Rogers on foot while they gave him several commands to stop. They also noticed Suspect Rogers grabbed his chest as he entered a walkway between two buildings and headed toward West Slauson Avenue. Suspect Rogers entered an empty parking lot located at 5035 West Slauson Avenue.

IAB Note: The distance from the gym entrance to the parking lot of 5035 West Slauson Avenue was approximately 250 feet [EXHIBIT A, pages 127-128].

While walking toward the parking lot, Suspect Rogers told the deputies that he "had something for them." Suspect Rogers erratically moved around the parking lot, as the deputies tracked his movements. At one point, Suspect Rogers reached into his backpack and removed a metal hair clipper from it. Due to Suspect Rogers' aggressive behavior, Deputy deployed his Taser while Deputy Imaizumi removed his firearm from his holster to have a lethal force option if needed.

Suspect Rogers wrapped the electrical cord of the metal hair clipper around his right hand and swung it in a crisscross pattern at the deputies. He constantly moved around, making it difficult for deputies to contain or contact him. The deputies reportedly heard the metal hair clipper whizzing through the air as Suspect Rogers swung it at them. Deputy Imaizumi advised, via his portable radio, that they were detaining an "assaultive" suspect and requested assistance.

As Suspect Rogers advanced toward deputies with the swinging metal hair clipper, Deputy announced he was going to activate the Taser. Deputy fired his Taser darts, aiming at Suspect Rogers's torso. The darts struck Suspect Rogers in the upper body, but he ripped them out. Suspect Rogers then fixated on Deputy Imaizumi. He charged at Deputy Imaizumi while he was swinging the metal hair clippers. Deputy Imaizumi stepped back and moved laterally away from Suspect Rogers. Within seconds, Deputy Imaizumi was

cornered by Suspect Rogers. He could not get out of the way and was in fear for his life. When Suspect Rogers came within three to five feet from his position, Deputy Imaizumi raised his left forearm to protect his head/face, brought his firearm down to his side, and fired three to four rounds from the hip.

IAB Note: Suspect Rogers sustained four gunshot wounds [EXHIBIT A, pages 97-98]. Surveillance footage captured Suspect Rogers charging at Deputy Imaizumi [EXHIBIT D]. However, the shooting occurred out of camera view.

After the shots fired, Suspect Rogers fell onto his stomach with his hands under his body. Deputy Imaizumi advised, via his portable radio, that he was involved in a shooting, and requested medical assistance for Suspect Rogers.

Deputies Propster (Unit 272/EM), Matthew Ferguson (Unit 271/EM) and Sergeant Amore Smith (Unit 270S) arrived on scene. Deputy Propster, a Level 1 Emergency Medical Technician, immediately assessed Suspect Roger's condition. The deputies rendered medical aid to Suspect Rogers until paramedics from the Los Angeles County Fire Department arrived and medically treated Suspect Rogers.

Suspect Rogers was alert and breathing at the scene; however, he succumbed to his injuries and was pronounced dead by Doctor Ali Cheaito at Ronald Reagan UCLA Hospital. The radio traffic related to this incident is included in this case under [EXHIBIT D].

#### Radio Traffic (Dispatch 12)

Time	Descriptions
2036	274/PM, 272/PM and 270S/PM were dispatched to a priority call - a business disturbance at "24 Hour Fitness," Tag 108.
2241	274/EM, 273/EM and 270S/EM were dispatched to a priority call - a business disturbance at "24 Hour Fitness," Tag 122.
2245	Unit 274 arrived at "24 Hour Fitness."
2249	Unit 274 asked for a S918 (MET) unit.
2250	SCC requested S918 to Dispatch 12; S918 acknowledged and requested MDR units to communicate on L-TAC.
2301	<ul> <li>274 advised they were detaining an assaultive suspect at gun point at 5035 West Slauson Avenue. 274 advised a Taser was used; however, it was ineffective.</li> <li>271 acknowledged and advised of a five minute ETA.</li> </ul>

- 272 acknowledged and advised of a five minute ETA.
- · SCC asked for a Sam unit to respond.
- 274 advised a deputy involved shooting occurred (about 98 seconds after the advisement of detention).
- Paramedics were requested approximately one minute after the shooting.
- · Unit 270S advised of his emergency response.

2308	270S arrived.
2309	Unknown unit requested Fire Department personnel to roll into the scene. Aero unit arrived on scene.
2310	270S advised SCC to release the patch.
2312	260L requested Fire Department personnel to roll into the scene.
2316	274 requested SCC to check on the status of the Fire Department.
2317	Fire Department arrived on scene.

#### Radio Traffic (L - TAC)

Time	Descriptions
2248	274 requested 270S to respond to the 415B call, Tag #122; 270S acknowledged.
2250	S918E2 (MET) informed they were busy in West Hollywood, but provided a phone number to 274.

#### DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S LETTER OF OPINION

The Justice System Integrity Division of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office reviewed the fatal shooting of Suspect Rogers by Deputy Imaizumi. In their Letter of Opinion **[EXHIBIT B]**, dated February 21, 2017, Deputy District Attorney Shannon Presby concluded Deputy Imaizumi acted lawfully in self-defense when he used deadly force against Suspect Rogers. There would be no further action from the District Attorney's Office.

#### INVOLVED EMPLOYEE AND WORK HISTORY

Ryan Imaizumi, Deputy Sheriff, # Central Patrol Division Marina Del Rey (MDR) Sheriff's Station

#### Work History

Date of Employment:

Date Assigned to MDR Station:

Date Completed Patrol Training:

Prior Shooting incident(s):

Prior Founded Force Incidents:

June 6, 2007 February 12, 2017

#### **Equipment Worn On Person**

Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Spray

Key ring

Two magazine pouches with magazines

Expandable Baton (ASP)

Radio

Two handcuff cases

Smith & Wesson M&P

Flashlight

PR-24 baton (attached to his warbag in the trunk of his radio car)



#### Work History

Date of Employment:

Date Assigned to MDR Station:

**Date Completed Patrol Training:** 

Prior Shooting incident(s):

Prior Founded Force Incidents:



#### **Equipment Worn On Person**

Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Spray

Key ring

Two magazine pouches with magazines

Expandable Baton (ASP)

Radio

Two handcuff cases

Beretta 92FS

Smith and Wesson 2-inch five shot revolver

Taser

Flashlight

PR-24 baton (attached to his warbag in the trunk of his radio car)

#### SUSPECT INFORMATION

Denn	Dennis Todd Williams-Rogers						
Male,	Black,	DOB:	July 2,	1975;	6'00";	195 p	ounds
FBI#							

**IAB Note:** A copy of Suspect Roger's criminal history is included in the Homicide Investigation Book **[EXHIBIT A, pages 65-86]**.

#### SUSPECT'S INJURIES

Suspect Rogers sustained four gunshot wounds [EXHIBIT A, pages 97-101].

- One bullet entered the upper back, traveled from back to front, and lodged in the right axilla (the area under the joint where the arm connects to the shoulder). There was no exit wound for this bullet.
- 2. One bullet entered the left upper quadrant of the abdomen, traveled downward from front to back, and exited through the lower left back.
- One bullet entered the left upper quadrant of the abdomen and was recovered from the soft tissues of the right side of the back. There was no exit wound for this bullet.
- 4. One bullet entered the right groin area and rested in the left hip socket.

In addition to the gunshot wounds, Suspect Rogers also sustained two puncture wounds on his right chest **[EXHIBIT A, pages 101&105]**.

#### **DEPUTY PERSONNEL INJURY**

None.

#### PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

All physic	cal evidence was located and collected by Hor	nicide Sergeant Joseph			
Ramirez	# and Detective Raymond Lugo #	The homicide			
	tors were assisted by Forensic Identification S				
#	and Deputy John Chun # from the Lo	s Angeles County Sheriff's			
Crime Lab. For descriptions of the evidence collected and where it was					
collected, see the Homicide Investigation Book [EXHIBIT A, pages 52-57].					

#### **INVESTIGATOR'S OBSERVATIONS**

Two hours transpired from the shooting to IAB Investigator's observations. The crime scene was described in detail by homicide investigators [EXHIBIT A, pages 52-57]. Their description of the crime scene was consistent with IAB investigators' observations. The crime scene was also photographed by the Sheriff's Crime Lab personnel [EXHIBIT F].

#### WEAPONS USED BY DEPUTIES RYAN IMAIZUMI AND

Deputy Imaizumi fired four rounds of Department issued 9mm ammunition from his personal weapon, Sig Sauer, P226 Elite, semiautomatic pistol. The firearm was examined by Senior Criminalist Phil Teramoto of the Scientific Services Firearms Identification Section and found to be functional [EXHIBIT A, pages 129&130].

Date last qualified: Date last trained with firearm:	
Deputy Imaizumi deployed his X-a	
Date last trained with Taser:	
Deputy deployed his X-26 activated it for a five-second dura	at Suspect Rogers and ges 147&170].
Date last trained with Taser:	

#### WEAPONS USED BY SUSPECT DENNIS ROGERS

An electric shaver attached to an electrical cord.

#### PROPERTY DAMAGE BY SUSPECT DENNIS ROGERS

None.

#### CRIMINAL INVESTIGATORS AND CHARGES FILED

The criminal investigation into the shooting was handled by Homicide Sergeants Richard Ruiz and Marcelo Quintero of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Homicide Bureau. No charges were filed.

#### **LIGHTING AND WEATHER CONDITIONS**

The shooting scene was the empty parking lot in the front of the retail stores. The scene was well lit by external lights from the closed retail stores at the "Waterbridge Business Property" [EXHIBIT A, page 56]. The weather was clear and cool.

#### **EMPLOYEE WITNESSES:**

#### **Deputy Lee McCullough**

On August 22, 2018, IAB Sergeant Luan Dang interviewed Deputy McCullough at the Internal Affairs Bureau. The interview was recorded and transcribed. For complete statements made, more information, and precise wording, see attached verbatim interview transcription. The following narrative is a summary of the interview.

On March 7, 2017, Deputy McCullough worked with Deputy Bostic as Unit 273, on the PM shift. They responded to a disturbance call at the "24 Hour Fitness" in the unincorporated county area of Ladera Heights. When they arrived, Deputy McCullough saw Deputies Propster and speaking with Witness They saw Suspect Rogers standing on a concrete step at the front entrance of the gym. Suspect Rogers then walked across the street and returned to the front entrance of the gym. After the deputies talked to Witness they determined there was no reason to detain or arrest Suspect Rogers. The deputies remained at the location until they had to leave for shift change.

After Deputies McCullough and Bostic logged on, they returned to the same gym to assist Deputies and Imaizumi with the second business disturbance call. When they arrived at the location, Deputy McCullough saw Deputy Imaizumi speaking with Suspect Rogers on the steps, leading to the front entrance of the gym. Deputy who was standing to the left side of Deputy Imaizumi, utilized his portable radio and requested a field sergeant and a MET team to their location.

Deputy McCullough saw Suspect Rogers pacing back and forth in front of the gym's entrance. Suspect Rogers confronted gym patrons as he walked toward them in an aggressive manner with his arms down to his sides and his fists clenched. Suspect Rogers somehow became fixated on Deputy Imaizumi by advancing toward him and abruptly backing off. He kept taunting the deputies by calling them "fake cops" (refer to **Deputy McCullough's homicide transcript**, **page 3**).

When Suspect Rogers charged at Deputy Imaizumi a second time, Deputy Imaizumi yelled, "Taser" before he activated it (*refer to Deputy McCullough's IAB transcript*, page 14). The Taser darts struck Suspect Rogers in the chest

and below his waist. Suspect Rogers pulled the darts off before he walked east along the north wall of the gym. The deputies followed him. Suspect Rogers grabbed his chest as if he was injured. He would turn to look at the deputies and continued to walk. Deputy McCullough walked behind Suspect Rogers to make sure he was okay. Suspect Rogers was carrying a backpack as he walked between the buildings toward a large parking lot behind the gym. Deputies ordered Suspect Rogers to stop; however, Suspect Rogers did not comply.

During his walk, Suspect Rogers reached inside his backpack. His actions caused deputies to remove their weapons and order him to show his hands. Suspect Rogers removed what Deputy McCullough thought was a weapon from his backpack (refer to Deputy McCullough's IAB transcript, page 19). The item turned out to be a metal hair clipper with a three to four feet electrical cord. Deputy McCullough believed Suspect Rogers was fixated on Deputy Imaizumi and charged toward him. At this time, Deputy activated the Taser; however, it was ineffective. Suspect Rogers continued to aggress toward Deputy Imaizumi as he swung the metal hair clipper in a "cross-type" motion (refer to Deputy McCullough's IAB transcript, page 21).

Deputy McCullough could hear the whizzing sound of the swinging metal hair clipper in the air. When Suspect Rogers came within four to five feet from Deputy Imaizumi, Deputy McCullough heard one or two gunshots (*refer to Deputy McCullough's IAB transcript, page 22*). Suspect Rogers dropped the metal hair clipper, stood there for approximately 15 to 30 seconds, and then kneeled down on the ground. Deputy Imaizumi advised, via his portable radio, that he was involved in a shooting. Sergeant Smith and other deputies arrived shortly thereafter to render medical aid to Suspect Rogers. Deputy McCullough retrieved a video camera and began to record their activities [EXHIBIT E]. Paramedics arrived shortly after, and Suspect Rogers was transported to the hospital by an ambulance.

#### **Deputy Bryan Bostic**

On October 23, 2018, IAB Sergeant Luan Dang interviewed Deputy Bostic at the Internal Affairs Bureau. Representing Deputy Bostic during the interview was Attorney Mitchell Kander from the law offices of Charles Goldwasser. The interview was recorded and transcribed. For complete statements made, more information, and precise wording, see attached verbatim interview transcription. The following narrative is a summary of the interview:

On March 7, 2017, Deputy Bostic worked with Deputy McCullough as Unit 273, on the PM shift. They responded to a disturbance call at the 24 Hour Fitness in Ladera Heights. When they arrived at the location, Deputy Bostic saw Deputies and Propster talking to an employee at the main entrance. Deputy informed Deputies Bostic and McCullough that Suspect Rogers was yelling at members inside the gym. He saw Suspect Rogers walk away from the gym,

going north toward a parking structure. Once Deputy Bostic learned the situation was being handled by Deputies and Propster, Deputies Bostic and McCullough left the location and returned to MDR Station.

Later that night, Deputies Bostic and McCullough returned to the same gym regarding another disturbance call. When they arrived, they parked the patrol car across the street from the gym's main entrance. Deputies Bostic saw Deputy Imaizumi speak with Suspect Rogers, as Deputy spoke with a staff member. Suspect Rogers appeared to be agitated. He cussed and yelled at deputies while he paced back and forth at the gym's entrance. Deputy Bostic and his partner got out of the car to assist Deputies and Imaizumi. Deputy Bostic heard Deputy Imaizumi request a field sergeant and the MET team on the radio. The field sergeant acknowledged, but the MET team advised Deputy Imaizumi that they could not respond. At this time, Deputy came back outside to speak with Suspect Rogers.

Deputies attempted to calm Suspect Rogers down; however, Suspect Rogers cursed at them. Suspect Rogers walked down the steps and attempted to bump Deputy Imaizumi's shoulder. Deputy Imaizumi moved out of Suspect Rogers' path and avoided the impending shoulder bump. Suspect Rogers walked up the steps and continued to pace back and forth in front of the gym's entrance. Suspect Rogers flailed his arms and said, "I'll kick your ass" (refer to Deputy Bostic's IAB transcript, page 29). Due to Suspect Rogers' aggressive behavior, Deputy Imaizumi announced "Taser" before he activated his Taser, aiming at Suspect Rogers. Suspect Rogers grabbed the prongs, ripped them out of his clothing. He threw the Taser prongs on the ground. Suspect Rogers continued to curse at deputies as he walked east, along the north wall of the gym.

Deputies Bostic, McCullough, and Imaizumi followed Suspect Rogers and ordered him to stop. Suspect Rogers refused to obey their commands. Suspect Rogers turned south and walked through a walkway between two buildings toward West Slauson Avenue. Deputy Bostic saw Suspect Rogers crouch down behind what Deputy Bostic described as a "pillar or an air conditioning unit" (refer to Deputy Bostic's IAB transcript, page 35). Deputies gave him commands to stand up and show his hands, to no avail. Approximately 30 seconds later, Suspect Rogers re-emerged with a backpack and walked toward the middle of the parking lot. At this time, the deputies formed a semicircle in front of Suspect Rogers. When Suspect Rogers reached into his backpack, Deputy Bostic believed Suspect Rogers was going to retrieve a weapon. Once Suspect Rogers removed his hand from the backpack, Deputy Bostic recognized the item to be a metal hair clipper (refer to Deputy Bostic's IAB transcript, page 38).

Suspect Rogers wrapped the metal hair clipper's electrical cord around his hand as he swung it in a "crisscross" motion at deputies. Suspect Rogers aggressed

toward them, stopped, then aggressed again, and then stopped again. Suspect Rogers exhibited this behavior several times, until Suspect Rogers became fixated on Deputy Imaizumi. Deputies Imaizumi and ordered Suspect Rogers to drop the metal hair clipper several times, but Suspect Rogers refused to comply. Suspect Rogers swung the metal hair clipper as he advanced toward the deputies. Deputy activated his Taser, but it was ineffective. Suspect Rogers ripped the prongs from his body and "charged" at Deputy Imaizumi.

Suspect Rogers swung the metal hair clipper in a circular motion along the side of his body and then above his head when he came close within "three to five feet" of Deputy Imaizumi's position (refer to Deputy Bostic's IAB transcript, page 42). He saw Deputy Imaizumi back away from Suspect Rogers until he could not back up anymore. When Suspect Rogers raised the metal hair clipper above his head as if he was about to swing downward on Deputy Imaizumi, Deputy Bostic heard the sounds of "three to four" gunshots. Deputy Bostic could not see Deputy Imaizumi's gun from his position. After hearing the gunshots, Deputy Bostic saw Suspect Rogers grab his abdominal area. Suspect Rogers said, "You shot me." He fell to the ground and rolled onto his stomach with his right arm under his body. Deputy Bostic noticed Suspect Rogers still held onto the electrical cord of the metal hair clipper, which was dropped on the ground next to his waist area.

Deputy Bostic recalled Deputy Imaizumi advised, via his portable radio, that he was involved in a shooting. Medical assistance was requested for Suspect Rogers. Once Deputies Propster and arrived to the location, they approached Suspect Rogers and handcuffed him. Deputy Propster medically assessed Suspect Rogers' condition. As a crowd of people began to form, Deputy Bostic secured the parking lot and prevented civilians from entering the shooting scene.

#### **Deputy Steven Propster**

On August 22, 2018, IAB Sergeant Luan Dang interviewed Deputy Propster at the Internal Affairs Bureau. The interview was recorded and transcribed. For complete statements made, more information, and precise wording, see attached verbatim interview transcription. The following narrative is a summary of the interview:

On March 7,	2017, Deputy Propster work	ked with Deputy	as Unit 274, on
the PM shift.	They responded to a distur	rbance call at the <u>"24</u>	Hour Fitness."
Upon arrival,	they spoke with the gym	Witness	, and learned
about Suspe	ct Rogers' aggressive behav	vior toward other gyn	n members.
Witness	asked the deputies to tell	Suspect Rogers to le	ave the gym.
	<del>_</del>	<u> </u>	
Witness	directed Deputies Propste	er and to the s	econd floor, where
they saw Sus	spect Rogers slowly peddle	on a stationary bicyc	le. The deputies

politely asked him to follow them downstairs. Suspect Rogers complied, but he asked them why he had to leave since he was a member of the gym. Deputy Propster noticed Suspect Rogers was polite one moment, and then spoke incoherently the next. He would call them "fake cops." Suspect Rogers retrieved his backpack from a locker and exited the gym. When Witness attempted to speak with Suspect Rogers, he kept interrupting Witness and refused to listen. Witness verbally revoked Suspect Rogers' membership and told him to leave the gym. Suspect Rogers walked across the street and began wandering around. The deputies determined Suspect Rogers had not committed any crime. He was capable of taking care of himself, and was not danger to himself or others. When Deputies Bostic and McCullough (Unit 273) arrived at the location, Deputies Propster and set the location and returned to MDR Station to prepare for their upcoming early morning shift.

Deputy Propster logged on as Unit 272, and he was assigned to patrol a different reporting district. Deputy Propster then heard another disturbance call-forservice at the same gym. The second call was assigned to Deputies Imaizumi and Deputy Propster monitored radio traffic and heard Deputy Imaizumi advise about his Taser's activation and its ineffectiveness. He also heard another advisement on the radio about the second Taser's activation and its ineffectiveness. Moments later, Deputy Propster heard Deputy Imaizumi announce that he was involved in a shooting. Deputy Propster responded Code-3 to the scene.

**IAB Note:** Radio traffic from Dispatch 12 indicated the shooting occurred 98 seconds after Deputy Imaizumi requested assistance **[EXHIBIT D]**.

When Deputy Propster arrived at the scene, he saw Deputies McCullough, Bostic, Imaizumi and in the parking lot east of the gym. He noticed Suspect Rogers was conscious and breathing while he was lying on the ground. Deputies Imaizumi and stood by Suspect Rogers as Deputies McCullough and Bostic attempted to keep a crowd of people away from them. They handcuffed Suspect Rogers and placed him on his left side to allow him to breathe. They also requested paramedics for Suspect Rogers. In an effort to render medical aid to Suspect Rogers, deputies removed the handcuffs from Suspect Rogers' wrists. Deputy Propster placed a first aid gauze over Suspect Rogers' abdominal wounds and applied direct pressure to stop the bleeding. Once the paramedics arrived, they placed Suspect Rogers on a gurney and loaded him into an ambulance.

**IAB Note:** The medical aid provided to Suspect Rogers by the on scene deputies were recorded by Deputy McCullough [**EXHIBIT E**].

#### Sergeant Matthew Ferguson

On October 22, 2018, IAB Sergeant Luan Dang interviewed Sergeant Ferguson at the Internal Affairs Bureau. At the time of this incident, Sergeant Ferguson was assigned at MDR Station as a patrol deputy. Sergeant Ferguson was promoted to his current rank on and he has been assigned to Sheriff's Station. The interview was recorded and transcribed. For complete statements made, more information, and precise wording, see attached verbatim interview transcription. The following narrative is a summary of the interview:

On March 7, 2017, Sergeant Ferguson worked the early morning shift as Unit 271. He heard an assistance request from Deputy Imaizumi over the main dispatch channel. Sergeant Ferguson recognized Deputy Imaizumi's Deputy Imaizumi's Deputy Imaizumi Deputy Imaizumi advised they were detaining an assaultive suspect at the 24 Hour Fitness in Ladera Heights. He immediately drove toward the location. While driving to the location, Sergeant Ferguson heard on the radio that Deputy Imaizumi was involved in a shooting.

Sergeant Ferguson and Deputy Propster arrived at the location simultaneously. After Sergeant Ferguson parked his patrol vehicle on West Slauson Avenue, he walked up a ten-foot embankment with Deputy Propster, toward the shooting scene. Sergeant Ferguson saw Suspect Rogers lying on the ground with his head pointing in the southeasterly direction. Suspect Rogers was lying on his left shoulder and his body was canted in a 45 degrees angle. Suspect Rogers' left hand was above his head and his right hand was tucked under his body.

Sergeant Ferguson saw Deputies Imaizumi and standing approximately 15 feet away from Suspect Rogers with their guns drawn and aimed at him (Suspect Rogers). Once he determined the deputies were uninjured, he approached Suspect Rogers with Deputy Propster. Sergeant Ferguson knelt on one knee as he pulled Suspect Rogers' right hand out from under his body. Sergeant Ferguson noticed an electrical cord was wrapped twice around Suspect Rogers' right hand (refer to Sergeant Ferguson's IAB transcript, page 25). The end of the electrical cord was connected to a metal hair clipper (refer to Sergeant Ferguson's IAB transcript, page 20).

Sergeant Ferguson and Deputy Propster handcuffed Suspect Rogers. Once handcuffed, Suspect Rogers began kicking his legs. Sergeant Ferguson controlled Suspect Rogers' legs by holding his ankles together. Deputy Propster rolled Suspect Rogers onto his left side to help him breathe. They rendered medical aid to Suspect Rogers by removing his shirts and applied pressure to the wounds. Once Suspect Rogers was transported to the hospital by ambulance, Sergeant Ferguson utilized Sergeant Smith's SUV to establish a command post on West Slauson Avenue. Sergeant Ferguson later located a Taser cartridge by

Deputies Imaizumi's and patrol vehicle, which was parked closer to the entrance of the gym. Sergeant Ferguson stayed at the front entrance to ensure the Taser cartridge was not touched and to ensure the scene was secured.

#### Sergeant Amore Smith

On June 27, 2017, IAB Sergeant Luan Dang interviewed Sergeant Smith at the Internal Affairs Bureau. The interview was recorded and transcribed. For complete statements made, more information, and precise wording, see attached verbatim interview transcription. The following narrative is a summary of the interview:

On March 7, 2017, Sergeant Smith was assigned as the field supervisor for the early morning shift as Unit 270S. Sergeant Smith conducted briefings at 2100 and 2200 hours to the early morning shift personnel. After the 2200 hour briefing, Sergeant Smith went to "Killer Shrimp" restaurant to eat. While sitting inside the restaurant, Sergeant Smith heard a dispatcher asking him to switch his handheld radio to L-TAC. Sergeant Smith did so, and a deputy requested him to respond to the 24 Hour Fitness in Ladera Heights.

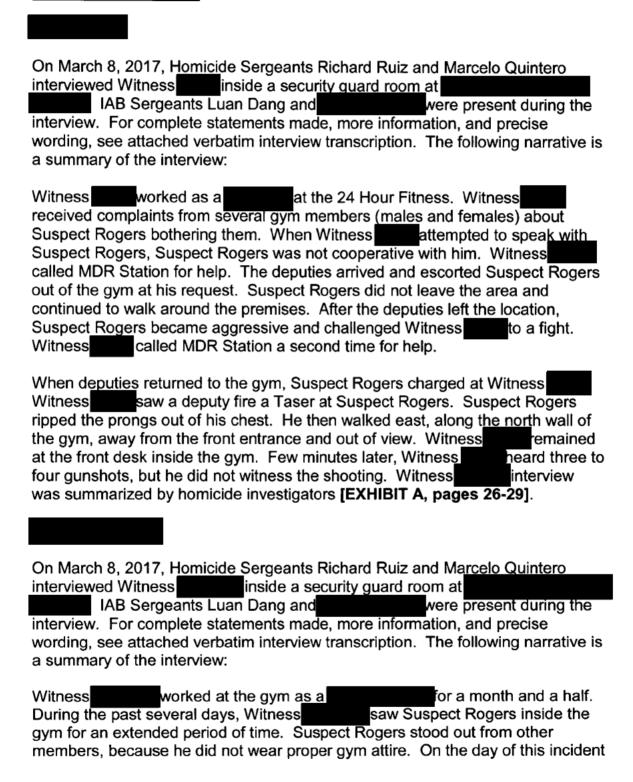
After Sergeant Smith paid for his food, he returned to his patrol vehicle. At this time, he heard an emergent radio traffic of a deputy involved shooting. He responded Code 3 to the location. Sergeant Smith did not get on the radio to communicate with the deputies because the radio traffic was busy. When the radio channel was temporary cleared of traffic, Sergeant Smith advised Sheriff's Communication Center (SCC) that he was on his way.

**IAB Note:** Sergeant Smith did not hear the emergent radio traffic when he was inside the restaurant paying for his food. After he switched his handheld radio to L-TAC, he forgot to switch it back to the main channel. He did not hear the emergent radio traffic until he entered his patrol vehicle. The mobile radio in his patrol vehicle was set on L-TAC frequency, but it was in a scanning mode.

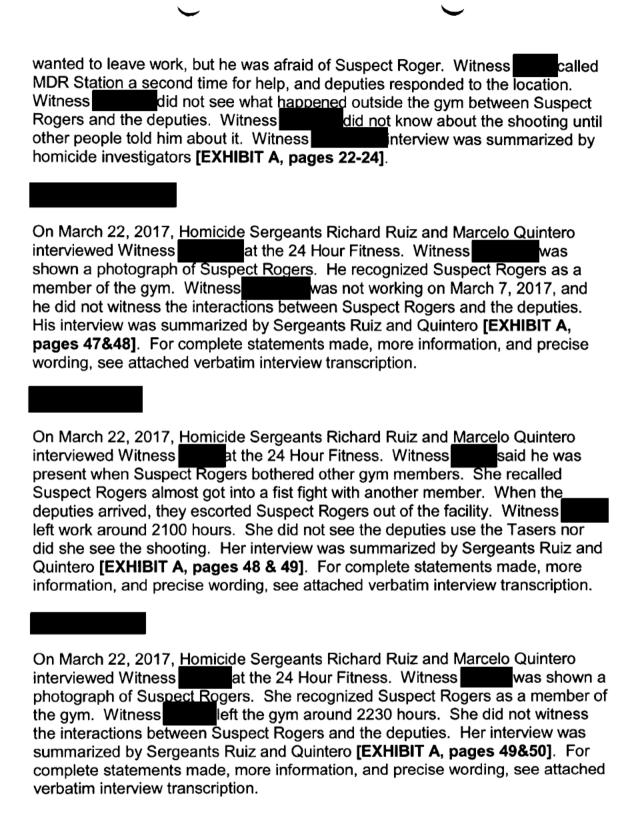
Sergeant Smith estimated he drove 120 miles per hour to the 24 Hour Fitness (refer to Sergeant Smith's IAB transcript, page 14). When he arrived on scene, Sergeant Smith saw Suspect Rogers lying on the ground with Deputy Propster standing next to him. Suspect Rogers was handcuffed. Once he realized Suspect Rogers had sustained gunshot wounds, Sergeant Smith instructed Deputy Propster to remove the handcuffs from Suspect Rogers' wrists. Deputy Imaizumi obtained a first aid kit from his patrol vehicle and returned to help rendering medical aid to Suspect Rogers. Once paramedics from the Los Angeles County Fire Department arrived, they took over the medical assistance. Suspect Rogers was breathing and moving at the scene. Sergeant Smith later learned the deputies used the Taser on Suspect Rogers twice prior to the

shooting. Sergeant Smith then secured the shooting scene until homicide investigators arrived.

#### **CIVILIAN WITNESSES**



(March 7, 2017), Witness received a complaint from one of the gym members (NFD) about Suspect Rogers invading the member's personal space. and attempted to speak with Suspect Rogers about his behavior, but he did cooperate with them. Witness called MDR station, and two deputies arrived shortly thereafter. The deputies escorted Suspect Rogers out of the gym, but Suspect Rogers loitered outside by the front door and refused to leave the area. Once the deputies left the location, Suspect Rogers appeared to be angry at the gym staff and wanted to start a fight with them. Suspect Rogers' behavior caused Witness to call MDR Station a second time. After four deputies returned to the location, they spoke with Suspect Rogers for approximately thirty (30) minutes. Suspect Rogers was aggressive toward the deputies, and Witness heard a deputy yell, "Taser, Taser, Taser!" did not see what happen because he was inside the lobby and Witness "the windows were blurry" (refer to Witness homicide transcript. page 11). Witness saw Suspect Rogers pull the Taser darts from his chest. Suspect Rogers then walked toward the rear parking lot, behind the gym. remained by the gym's entrance and did not follow Suspect Rogers and the deputies to the rear parking lot. Moments later, Witness heard four gunshots. He did not witness the shooting. Witness interview was summarized by homicide investigators [EXHIBIT A. pages 24-26]. On March 8, 2017, Homicide Sergeants Richard Ruiz and Marcelo Quintero interviewed Witness inside a security quard room at IAB Sergeants Luan Dang and were present during the interview. For complete statements made, more information, and precise wording, see attached verbatim interview transcription. The following narrative is a summary of the interview: Witness worked as a for 24 Hour Fitness in the last four recognized Suspect Rogers as one of the members, months. Witness who stayed inside the gym for an extended amount of time for several days. On the day of this incident, Witness came to work at hours. He received multiple complaints from other gym members about Suspect Rogers invading their personal space and making them feel uncomfortable. When went upstairs to talk with Suspect Rogers, Suspect Rogers Witness refused to listen. called MDR Station and two deputies arrived shortly thereafter. Witness The deputies escorted Suspect Rogers out of the gym; however, Suspect Rogers remained outside by the front entrance. At one point, Suspect Rogers pointed at the gym lobby and yelled at the employees. Later that night, Witness



#### **INVOLVED EMPLOYEE INTERVIEWS:**

#### Deputy Ryan Imaizumi

On November 1, 2018, IAB Sergeant Luan Dang interviewed Deputy Imaizumi at the Internal Affairs Bureau. On November 20, 2018, IAB Sergeant Luan Dang continued the interview with Deputy Imaizumi at MDR Station. Deputy Imaizumi was represented by Attorney Mitchell Kander during both interviews. The interviews were recorded and transcribed. For complete statements made, more information, and precise wording, see attached verbatim interview transcription. The following narrative is a summary of both interviews:

On March 7, 2017, Deputy Imaizumi worked with Deputy as Unit 274, in the early morning shift. Deputy Imaizumi was the driver. At the beginning of their shift, they received a disturbance call at the 24 Hour Fitness (Tag #122). Deputy informed Deputy Imaizumi that he (Deputy had handled a business disturbance call at this location earlier. Deputy believed they might be dealing with the same person (Suspect Rogers), who created a disturbance. If so, Deputy would like to communicate with Suspect Rogers, because Deputy established a rapport with him.

During the pre-planning phase, Deputy Imaizumi informed Deputy that he was carrying a Taser. Deputy Imaizumi learned that Deputy also checked out another Taser and hung it on the shotgun rack in their vehicle. When they arrived at the location, Deputy contacted Suspect Rogers as planned. Deputy Imaizumi stood by to assist Deputy He saw Suspect Rogers pacing back and forth in front of the gym's entrance as if Suspect Rogers was upset with someone inside the gym. Deputy Imaizumi saw a security guard holding the gym's front doors close to prevent Suspect Rogers from entering the facility. Suspect Rogers would "rush" at the doors whenever a gym member entered or exited the facility. Suspect Rogers continued to yell profanities and refused to communicate with Deputies Imaizumi and Deputy Imaizumi requested Sergeant Smith and MET personnel to respond to their location. Sergeant Smith acknowledged and advised he was on his way; however, MET personnel indicted that they were unable to assist. A short time later, Deputies McCullough and Bostic arrived on scene.

Suspect Rogers became more aggressive as he walked down the steps in front of the entrance. At one point, Suspect Rogers came within inches from Deputy Imaizumi's face. Suspect Roger said, "Don't fucking touch me because I'll fucking kill you" (refer to Deputy Imaizumi's IAB transcript, page 18). Suspect Rogers then walked up the steps toward the entrance. He approached Deputy in an aggressive manner, causing Deputy to retreat to get away from Suspect Rogers. Deputy Imaizumi saw Suspect Rogers come within a "foot" of Deputy Imaizumi his position (refer to Deputy Imaizumi's IAB transcript, page 23). When Deputy Imaizumi believed

Deputy was "essentially running away" from Suspect Rogers. As soon as Deputy yelled, "Taser," Deputy Imaizumi removed his Taser from its holster and yelled "Taser" three times before he activated it. His aim was toward Suspect Rogers' chest. After the Taser dart(s) struck Suspect Rogers in the upper torso, Deputy Imaizumi realized it was ineffective. Suspect Rogers ripped the darts off his body and started walking east on the sidewalk along the north wall of the gym.

After Deputy Imaizumi fired his Taser, he ran back to his patrol vehicle to retrieve another cartridge. Deputy Imaizumi also retrieved the second Taser that was hanging on the shotgun rack of their patrol vehicle, since he believed his Taser might have malfunctioned.

**IAB Note:** The Taser Activation Log showed Deputy Imaizumi activated his Taser for a five second duration. An inspection by the manufacture showed the Taser was functional; however, there was no evidence of electrical discharge through the probes **[EXHIBIT A, pages 146, 148 & 156]**.

Deputy Imaizumi ran back and gave the second Taser to Deputy they followed Suspect Rogers to an empty parking lot at 5035 West Slauson Avenue. Once Suspect Rogers reached a "transformer," he went behind it and said, "I've got something for you. I'm going to kill you. Don't fuck with me." Suspect Rogers then reached in his backpack as if he was going to retrieve a weapon (refer to Deputy Imaizumi's IAB transcript, page 37). In fear for their un-holstered their firearms and ordered safety, Deputies Imaizumi and Suspect Rogers to show his hands. Suspect Rogers picked up his backpack and walked around erratically toward the middle of the parking lot. Suspect Rogers set his backpack on the ground and removed what Deputy Imaizumi described as a heavy object with a three or four foot electrical cord (refer to Deputy Imaizumi's IAB transcript, page 39). He saw Suspect Rogers wrap the electrical cord around the palm of his hand and swing it in a crisscross motion. Deputy Imaizumi could hear the object whizzing through the air as Suspect Rogers swung it in a mace-like fashion.

Deputy Imaizumi advised on the radio that they were detaining an assaultive suspect at gunpoint. Suspect Rogers continued to swing the metal hair clipper as he moved back and forth in different directions. Deputy Imaizumi then saw Deputy fire his Taser at Suspect Rogers. The Taser's activation was ineffective. Suspect Rogers ripped the probes off his body and became fixated on Deputy Imaizumi. Suspect Rogers chased after Deputy Imaizumi and repeatedly said, "I'm going to kill you. I'm going to fuck you up." Deputy Imaizumi backed away from the swinging metal hair clipper (refer to Deputy Imaizumi's IAB transcript, page 45), until he was cornered into a pocket of the parking lot. He had nowhere else to go as Suspect Rogers continued to advance toward him with the swinging metal hair clipper. When Suspect Rogers was

"inches" away from his position, Deputy Imaizumi fired four rounds from his weapon from the hip position (refer to Deputy Imaizumi's IAB transcript, page 46). Suspect Rogers fell to the ground. Deputy Imaizumi advised on the radio that he was involved in a shooting. He held Suspect Rogers at gunpoint until additional deputies arrived to medically assess Suspect Rogers' condition. Deputy Imaizumi retrieved a first aid kit from his patrol vehicle and gave it to Deputy Propster. Deputy Propster, a certified Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), rendered medical aid to Suspect Rogers until the paramedics arrived. Suspect Rogers was alive when he was transported by ambulance to the hospital.

#### Deputy

On August 22, 2018, IAB Sergeant Luan Dang interviewed Deputy Internal Affairs Bureau. The interview was recorded and transcribed. For complete statements made, more information, and precise wording, see attached verbatim interview transcription. The following narrative is a summary of the interview:

On March 7, 2017, Deputy worked with Deputy Propster as Unit 274, on the PM shift. Deputy was the driver. Toward the end of their shift, they received a disturbance call at the 24 Hour Fitness. Deputies and Propster responded to location and spoke with Witness Deputy learned Suspect Rogers had been living at the facility for the past four days. Suspect Rogers would only leave the gym for a short time. On today's date, Suspect Rogers began to harass other gym members, by walking up to them and whispering into their ears. He made the other gym members feel uncomfortable IAB's transcript, page 3, and homicide's transcript, (refer to **Deputy** page 12).

Witness Deputies and Propster went upstairs and found Suspect Rogers on the second floor. Deputy spoke with Suspect Rogers and asked him to leave the gym. Suspect Rogers was compliant, walked downstairs to the men's locker room, and removed his backpack from a locker. Suspect Rogers exited the gym; however, he was agitated. He told the deputies he was a paying member of the gym and he did not want to leave. Deputy forewarned Witness that Suspect Rogers could legally return to the gym as he was a valid member, and the gym was supposed to open 24 hours a day.

Witness decided to temporarily revoke Suspect Rogers' membership for the day and inform Suspect Rogers that he could contact the management in the verbally informed Suspect morning. In the deputies' presence, Witness Rogers of the revocation. Suspect Rogers protested and said it was "bull shit." and Propster determined Suspect Rogers had not committed any crime(s) and he was able to care for himself. They saw no reason to take further police action. They remained at the location to monitor the situation until

Deputies Bostic and McCullough arrived at the gym. Deputies Propster left the location and returned to MDR Station to prepare for their upcoming early morning shift. At MDR Station, Deputy learned Deputy Imaizumi was assigned to work with him as Unit 274/EM. As Deputy Imaizumi loaded his equipment into their patrol vehicle, Deputies and Imaizumi received a second disturbance call at the same gym. Deputy informed Deputy Imaizumi about the disturbance call he handled earlier. Since he had established a rapport with Suspect Rogers, Deputy said he would contact him (refer to Deputy IAB interview, page 11). When they arrived at the gym, Deputy saw Suspect Rogers pacing back and forth by the sidewalk in front of the entrance. Suspect Rogers yelled, "Those mother fuckers! They hit me. Those mother fuckers. They are going to pay for it." Suspect Rogers was very angry as he directed his attention to the security guards, who stood inside the lobby with Witness refer to Deputy IAB transcript, page 11). Deputy attempted to speak with Suspect Rogers; however, Suspect Rogers told Deputy that they (referring to Deputies and Imaizumi) were "fake police." Suspect Rogers claimed he worked for the FBI, and then rambled on about aliens. Based on Suspect Rogers' behavior, Deputy told Deputy Imaizumi to request the field sergeant and MET personnel to their location. Deputy earned the MET team was busy and could not respond. A short time later, Deputies McCullough and Bostic arrived and provided assistance as Deputy continued to talk with Suspect Rogers. Deputy stood by the entrance of the gym to speak with Witness learned after they left the location, Suspect Rogers walked into the lobby, and a physical altercation occurred between Suspect Rogers and the security officers. Witness and the security officers successfully forced Suspect Rogers out of the gym. Witness wanted to go home at the end of his shift; however. Suspect Rogers stayed by the front door and threatened to "fuck him up." Fearing for his safety, he called MDR Station a second time. Deputy to his car. As soon as Deputy opened the door to let Witness exit. Suspect Rogers ran toward the door to get to Witness Fearing Suspect Rogers was going to assault Deputy pushed Witness back into the lobby and closed the doors. He immediately turned and pushed Suspect Rogers away from the door with his left hand. Suspect Rogers said, "Oh! You too? You want to fight?" Suspect Rogers dropped his backpack on the ground and took a combative stance facing him (refer to Deputy IAB transcript, page 20). Fearing Suspect Rogers was about to assault him, Deputy "Hey, Taser" to Deputy Imaizumi. Deputy ran down the steps to get away

from Suspect Rogers. After Deputy Imaizumi announced "Taser" three times,

Deputy Imaizumi fired his Taser, aiming at Suspect Rogers. The Taser darts struck Suspect Rogers in the chest area. Suspect Rogers said, "Oh, Really? Oh, Really?" Suspect Rogers ripped the darts from his body, picked up his backpack, and walked east along the north wall of the gym. Deputy ordered Suspect Rogers to stop and place his hands behind his back, but Suspect Rogers did not comply.

Deputies Imaizumi, Bostic, and McCullough followed Suspect Rogers closely as he walked south on a walkway between two buildings on the east side of the gym. They emerged in an empty parking lot, which is located at 5035 West Slauson Avenue. Suspect Rogers paced back and forth, and said, "Ah, motherfuckers. I'm going to kill one of you. I got something for you" (refer to IAB transcript, pages 13 & 29). Suspect Rogers stepped behind a green "transformer box," placed his backpack on the ground, opened it, and retrieved a black case, which looked similar to a gun case. Suspect Rogers reached inside and removed a "shiny" object (metal hair clipper) with a cord attached at one end. Suspect Rogers wrapped the cord around his hand and swung it like a "medieval mace" in a crisscross pattern. Deputy Deputy Imaizumi broadcast they were detaining an assaultive suspect. Suspect Rogers then charged toward the deputies, at which time Deputy Taser while aiming at Suspect Rogers at a distance of 12 or 15 feet. Once again, the Taser's activation was ineffective. Suspect Rogers ripped the prongs from his body and continued to swing the shiny object at the deputies.

IAB Note: The Taser Activation Log showed Deputy activated his Taser for a five second duration. An inspection by the manufacture showed the Taser was functional; however, one of the probes has no evidence of electrical discharge. The manufacture was unable to examine the second probe without first removing a piece of cloth attached to the tip. The removal of the cloth exceeds their scope examination [EXHIBIT A, pages 147, 151 & 159].

Realizing the Taser was ineffective, Deputy secured his Taser and deployed his expandable baton. Deputy could not use his baton, without risking his safety by closing the gap between himself and Suspect Rogers. Since the electrical cord attached to the metal hair clipper was about three to four feet long, Suspect Rogers swung it around to keep the deputies at bay.

At one point, Suspect Rogers rushed toward Deputy Imaizumi while saying "I'm going to kill you." Deputy saw Deputy Imaizumi put his left forearm above his head to block Suspect Rogers' impending attack. He heard Deputy Imaizumi fire three rounds from the hip position. Suspect Rogers stopped and dropped to the ground on his stomach, with his hands tucked under his body. Deputy Imaizumi advised, via his portable radio, that he was involved in a shooting. They held Suspect Rogers at gunpoint until assisting units arrived.

Once sufficient personnel arrived on scene, they approached Suspect Rogers and handcuffed him. Sergeant Smith arrived shortly after the shooting and assessed the situation. Sergeant Smith instructed the deputies to remove the handcuffs from Suspect Rogers' wrists to provide medical aid to him. The deputies removed the handcuffs as instructed and applied pressure to the wounds until the paramedics arrived on scene. Suspect Rogers was subsequently transported to the hospital by an ambulance.